



News, Events and Information

Celebrate Car Free Day

A sampling of parking spots throughout the City will create a fun, visual impact as they are transformed on September 17th into temporary public spaces. The concept, which was originally developed by [Rebar](#) and titled Park(ing) Day, will be used locally in celebration of Car Free Day to demonstrate what our community could look like with fewer cars on the road. The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) is coordinating the community-wide effort for the third year and is asking businesses and community groups to lend their creativity to the effort. Those interested in participating need to identify a parking spot to transform, contact MORPC to register the location and plan for the new use of the space. In past years, the space has been used as public parks, restaurant seating, outdoor professional offices and [more](#). We look forward to celebrating Car Free Day with you, visit the City of Columbus and Columbus Public Health installations on Front Street at City Hall (90 W. Broad Street) for your chance to win a prize. Visit www.carfreedaycolumbus.org for more information.

Marshall “Major” Taylor Bikeway dedication

Mayor Michael B. Coleman, Columbus Recreation and Parks and [The Columbus Major Taylor Cycling Club](#) will start off the month of September celebrating the life of Marshall “Major” Taylor and dedicate a four mile stretch of the [Alum Creek Trail](#) in his name. The Columbus Major Taylor Cycling Club is the nation’s oldest cycling organization named in honor of Taylor. Taylor was the first African-American to become an international sports star and one of the most famous cyclists in American history. The dedicated length of trail between Refugee Road and Nelson Road, known as the “Major Taylor Bikeway”, will feature an informational plaque on Taylor’s life accomplishments.

Harvest Time

Mayor Coleman supports community gardening and believes gardens can produce many benefits to our community- from increasing access to healthy food, beautifying neighborhoods, anchoring re-development activities, and reconnecting neighbors. He would like the number of community gardens to grow from the existing 200 to 500 gardens by 2012, the City’s Bicentennial. On June 28, Mayor Coleman, Councilmember Pricilla Tyson, Lowe’s, Earth Minded, Franklin Park Conservatory, ChoiceDek and Scotts Miracle-Gro put their shovels to work and installed a vegetable garden at City Hall. In just one growing season and a relatively small space, the City Hall Community Garden has produced eggplant, green beans, cucumbers, zucchini, peppers and more. The Mayor encourages businesses, individuals and community groups to support the 500 gardens initiative by establishing their own garden.

The City is currently working to update the [2006 Community Garden Resource Manual](#) and asks for your help in providing ideas and suggestions for improvements to the next version. Please submit your comments and ideas to [Leslie Strader](#).

Accolades

- The [Keep Columbus Beautiful](#), Plant Pride on Parsons project was awarded the Neighborhood Improvement Project of the Year Award at Franklin Park Conservatory's Growing to Green Awards and Harvest Celebration on August 18th. KCB is based in the Department of Public Service. For more information on the work of Keep Columbus Beautiful register to receive their newsletter by contacting [Sherri Palmer](#).
- The West Side Family Health and Wellness Center officially received confirmation of LEED Silver Certification.

Green Events & Activities

Get involved with sustainability in the City of Columbus and Central Ohio by visiting the MORPC Green Community Calendar [online](#).

- **An eco-smart back 2 school celebration:** September 11, 9:00 AM-1:00 PM at the Grange Insurance Audubon Center (505 W. Whittier Avenue). Bring your own bag and fill it up with back to school clothes -- free! Donate any gently used clothes and get an early bird VIP pass. Enter raffles and enjoy booths and activities. Contact Victoria for more information at 614-545-5483
- [U.S. Green Building Council Central Ohio Chapter](#) hosts monthly meetings every fourth Thursday featuring educational presentations, networking and lunch. The next meeting will be held September 23, 11:30 AM at the Grange Insurance Audubon Center.

Questions, comments, concerns? Interact with us online by becoming a Fan of Columbus GreenSpot on [Facebook](#)!



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